

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
FEB 12 2007

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A coated substrate suitable for accepting watercolor paints, pencils, and inks, comprising a substrate and a hydrophilic coating on the substrate, wherein (a) the coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints, pencils, and inks without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks, ~~wherein the paint mixture further comprises a pigment and filler and water.~~

2. (currently amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of woven ~~and non-woven~~ materials.

3. (previously amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the substrate is a canvas selected from the group consisting of canvas made from natural and synthetic fibers.

4. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the substrate is a flexible canvas selected from the group consisting of cotton and linen canvases.

5. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising a water-based latex.

6. (canceled).

7. (previously amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the paint mixture further comprises pigment dispersant, defoamer, extender and surfactant.

8. (previously amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising from 100-200 parts by weight water-based latex selected from the group consisting of acrylic latexes, vinyl latexes, polyvinyl latexes, other common and known latexes, and mixtures thereof; 0-5 parts by weight pigment dispersant; 0-2 parts by weight defoamer; 75-150 parts by weight pigment and filler selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium silicate, clay, inorganic colors, barium sulfate, mica, zinc oxide, zinc dust, metallics, carbon blacks, organic colors, silica, other silicates, aluminates, sulphates, carbonates, and mixtures thereof; 0-50 parts by weight extender selected from the group consisting of china clay, kaolin clay, talc, silica, whiting, metal stearates, gypsum, mica, barite, blanc fixe, and mixtures thereof; 0-5 parts by weight surfactant; and 0-50 parts by weight water, wherein the paint mixture then is mixed with a water soluble polymer to create the coating.

9. (currently amended) A coated substrate for use by artists that is suitable for accepting watercolor paints, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a substrate and a coating on the substrate, wherein the substrate is a flexible canvas selected from the group consisting of cotton and linen canvases and the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising from 100-200 parts by weight water-based latex, 0-5 parts by weight pigment dispersant, 0-2 parts by weight defoamer, 75-150 parts by weight pigment and filler, 0-50 parts by weight extender, 0-5 parts by weight surfactant, and 0-50 parts by weight water, wherein the paint mixture then is mixed with a water soluble polymer to create the coating, whereby (a) the coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints.

10. (previously amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the water-based latex is an acrylic latex and the water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, cellulose and its derivatives, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, starch, animal hide glue, gum Arabic, xanthan gum and guar gum.

11. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the pigment and filler is calcium carbonate.

12. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the extender is talc.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

13. (currently amended) A coated substrate for use by artists that is suitable for accepting watercolor paints, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a substrate and a coating on the substrate, wherein the substrate is a flexible canvas selected from the group consisting of cotton and linen canvases and the coating is made from a paint mixture,

wherein the paint mixture comprises from 150 parts by weight water-based latex, 2 parts by weight pigment dispersant, 0.8 parts by weight defoamer, 115 parts by weight calcium carbonate, 20 parts by weight talc, 2 parts by weight surfactant, and 30 parts by weight water,

wherein the paint mixture is mixed with a water soluble polymer to create the coating, and the water soluble polymer is added to the paint mixture at a ratio of 1 to 30 weight percent based on the weight of solids in the paint mixture,

wherein the water-based latex is an acrylic latex and the water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, cellulose and its derivatives, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, starch, animal hide glue, gum Arabic, xanthan gum and guar gum,

whereby (a) the coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints.

14. (currently amended) A coating for applying to a substrate, the coating being suitable for accepting watercolor paints, pencils, and inks, wherein (a) the coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints, pencils, and inks without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

15. (previously amended) The coating as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising a water-based latex mixed with a water soluble polymer.

16. (previously amended) The coating as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the paint mixture further comprises a pigment and filler and water.

17. (original) The coating as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the paint mixture further comprises pigment dispersant, defoamer, extender and surfactant.

18. (currently amended) A coating for applying to a substrate, the hydrophilic coating being suitable for accepting watercolor paints, pencils, and inks, wherein the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising from 100-200 parts by weight water-based latex selected from the group consisting of acrylic latexes, vinyl latexes, polyvinyl latexes, other common and known latexes, and mixtures thereof; 0-5 parts by weight pigment dispersant; 0-2 parts by weight defoamer; 75-150 parts by weight pigment and filler selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium silicate, clay, inorganic colors, barium sulfate, mica, zinc oxide, zinc dust, metallics, carbon blacks, organic colors, silica, other silicates, aluminates, sulphates, carbonates, and mixtures thereof; 0-50 parts by weight extender selected from the group consisting of china clay, kaolin clay, talc, silica, whiting, metal stearates, gypsum, mica, barite, blanc fixe; 0-5 parts by weight surfactant; and 0-50 parts by weight water, and wherein the paint mixture then is mixed with a water soluble polymer at a ratio of 1 to 30 weight percent based on the weight of solids in the paint mixture to create the coating,

wherein (a) the coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints, pencils, and inks without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

19. (currently amended) A hydrophilic coating for applying to a substrate for use by artists, the coating being suitable for accepting watercolor paints, wherein the coating is made from a paint mixture comprising from 100-200 parts by weight water-based latex, 0-5 parts by weight pigment dispersant, 0-2 parts by weight defoamer, 75-150 parts by weight pigment and filler, 0-50 parts by weight extender, 0-5 parts by weight surfactant, and 0-50 parts by weight water, wherein the paint mixture then is mixed with a water soluble polymer to create the coating, whereby (a) the hydrophilic coating has a formulation that accepts watercolor paints without unacceptable running or bleeding of the watercolor paints in and on the coating, (b) the coating is applied to the substrate, and (c) the formulation of the coating allows for the removal of the watercolor paints from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints.

20. (previously amended) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the water-based latex is an acrylic latex and the water soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide, cellulose and its derivatives, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, starch, animal hide glue, gum Arabic, xanthan gum and guar gum.

21. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the pigment and filler is calcium carbonate.

22. (original) The coated substrate as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the extender is talc.

23. (canceled).

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

24. (new) A medium capable of accepting watercolor paints, pencils, and inks, consisting essentially of:

- a) a substrate; and
- b) a hydrophilic coating formulated to absorb water so to bond watercolor paints, pencils, and inks and to allow the removal of the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks from the coating without harming the coating by wetting the coating and wiping off the watercolor paints, pencils, and inks.

25. (new) The medium of Claim 24, wherein the hydrophilic coating has low electric resistivity.